

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 15, 2011. Claims 1 to 6, 15 and 19 to 21 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 15 and 17 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 6, 17, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C 101 for allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, and in the interest of advancing prosecution, Claims 1 and 17 have been amended. In particular, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the method is performed by a printing control apparatus, and Claim 17 has been amended to recite that the program is executed by a computer. The amendments to Claims 1 and 17 are believed to overcome the rejections. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 5, 6, 15, 17 and 19 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 7194696 (Mori) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5953104 (Matsumoto). Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Mori in view of Matsumoto, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6842262 (Gillihan). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The claims generally concern converting original data generated by an application into print data processible by a printing apparatus, and more specifically concerns management of front and back sides of a printed sheet. In one aspect, a size of a printable region for borderless printing is sent to the application that generates the original data when borderless printing is set for one side of the sheet via a first setting screen and

bordered printing is set for the other side of the sheet via a second setting screen. Original data is then generated by the application based on the received size for the borderless printing region. Print data which corresponds to the side of the borderless printing is then generated based on the original data for the borderless printing.

By sending the size of the printable region for borderless printing to the application that generates the original data, original data is generated by the application based on the size of the printable region for borderless printing. This ordinarily prevents the need for magnification processing of the original data when borderless printing is set for the basic attribute or the back-side attribute.

Moreover, the claimed arrangement provides for the setting of the “borderless printing” to one side of a sheet, and the setting of the “printing with border” to another side of the sheet.

Turning to specific claim language, independent Claim 1 is directed to a printing control method of converting original data generated by an application into print data processible by a printing apparatus, wherein the method is executed by a printing control apparatus. The print control method includes the steps of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute to be applied to whole print data and a second setting screen to set a back-side attribute to be applied to a plurality of pages which correspond to not the front sides of printing media but to the back sides of the printing media output in double-sided printing; sending a size of a printable region for borderless printing to the application that generates the original data when one of the borderless printing and printing with a border is set in the basic attribute received via the first setting screen and another is set in the back-side attribute received via the second setting screen, wherein the size of the

printable region for borderless printing is wider than a size of a printable region for printing with the border; receiving the original data for the borderless printing from the application, wherein the original data for the borderless printing is generated by the application based on the size of the printable region for borderless printing sent in the sending step; and generating the print data of a page which corresponds to the side of the borderless printing based on the original data for the borderless printing and the print data of a page which corresponds to the side of the printing with the border by specifying the original data of the printable region for printing with the border from the original data for the borderless printing.

Independent Claims 15 and 17 are directed to an apparatus and a computer-readable storage medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1.

Applicant submits that the applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the subject matter of Claims 1, 15 and 17, particularly as regards at least the foregoing features.

Mori is seen to disclose a general application 101 that creates application data such as created document data and image data. See Mori, column 8, lines 5 to 7. Application data is converted into an electronic original made up of pages (“original pages”) defined by the application 101. The electronic original is stored as an electronic original file 103 in a storage medium, such as a hard disk. A book editing application 104 provides a user with the capability to read and edit an electronic original file or book file 103. To print the book file 103 edited by the book editing application 104, the book editing application 104 starts an electronic original despooler 105. The electronic original

despooler 105 outputs drawing data to a printer driver when printing a document (book file) which uses the book editing application. See Mori, column 8, line 56, to column 9, line 11.

Thus, Mori is seen to disclose a book editing application that accesses data generated by a general application. Mori's book editing application also starts a despooler which outputs drawing data to a printer driver.

On the other hand, the claims herein define the sending of a size of a printable region for borderless printing to an application that generates original data. The size of the borderless printing region is sent to the application that generates the original data when borderless printing is set for one side of the sheet via a first setting screen and bordered printing is set for the other side of the sheet via a second setting screen.

In contrast, Mori's general application, which creates application data, is not seen to receive a size of a printable region for borderless printing. Similarly, Mori's book editing application is not seen to receive a size of a printable region for borderless printing.

At page 3, the Office Action alleges the following:

"Also, the book editing application (104) is used to receive the different print sizes and border free printing option. This application is able to send this information to other applications such as the despooler (105) or driver (106). This performs the feature of having a program send information related to the printable regions on the sheet along with the border free printing attribute to another application."

However, neither Mori's despooler nor Mori's printer driver generate original data.

Therefore, Mori is not seen to disclose or to suggest the sending of a size of a printable region for borderless printing to an application that generates original data.

Matsumoto is seen to disclose that an image recording area on a printing paper in the case of the “bordered” printing is smaller than that in the case of the “no border” printing. See Matsumoto, column 16, lines 34 to 37.

However, Matusmoto is not seen to overcome the deficiencies of Mori as explained above.

Moreover, Applicant submits a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Mori and Matsumoto because Mori discloses a process performed by an information processing apparatus and Matsumoto discloses a process performed by a printer. In particular, Mori’s information processing apparatus executes a process before sending print data to a printing device. On the other hand, Matsumoto’s printer executes a process after storing image data. Accordingly, Applicant submits that modifying Mori’s information processing apparatus as taught by Matusmoto’s printer would change the principle of operation of Mori’s information processing apparatus, which executes a process before sending print data to a printing device. Accordingly, as the suggested modification of Mori’s information processing apparatus with the features of Matsumoto’s printer would be contrary to the purposes of Mori’s information processing apparatus, Applicant submits a person having ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Mori and Matsumoto, and that such a combination is not permissible.

Applicant has reviewed Gillihan, and submits that Gillihan is not seen to teach anything that, when combined with Mori and Matsumoto, would overcome the deficiencies of Mori and Matsumoto as described above.

Therefore, the applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the subject matter of Claims 1, 15 and 17.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1, 15 and 17, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to recite subject matter that would not have been obvious from the applied art, and are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

CONCLUSION

Any necessary fees are being paid concurrently herewith. The Director is hereby authorized to credit any fee overpayment, or charge any fee underpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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